

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 11, 16, 18-23, 28, 29 and 33-36 are subject to a restriction requirement (where claims 3, 9-10, 12-15, 17, 24-27 and 30-32 have previously been cancelled). Claims 20-23, 28, 29 and 33-36 have now been cancelled, without prejudice, and therefore claims 1, 2, 4-8, 11, 16, 18 and 19 are the only claims remaining in this application.

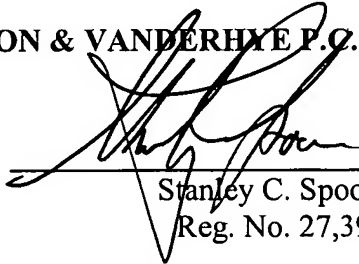
Applicants elect for further prosecution the Group II claims, i.e., claims 1, 2, 4-8, 11, 16, 18 and 19. Applicants have cancelled without prejudice Group I claims 10-23, 28, 29 and 33-36, thereby streamlining prosecution of this patent application.

Having responded to all objections and rejections set forth in the outstanding Official Action, it is submitted that remaining claims 1, 2, 4-8, 11, 16, 18 and 19 are in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is respectfully solicited. In the event the Examiner is of the opinion that a brief telephone or personal interview will facilitate allowance of one or more of the above claims, he is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHUYE P.C.

By: _____


Stanley C. Spooner
Reg. No. 27,393

SCS:kmm
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100